

CLAIMS:

1. A depilation device (1) comprising a housing (5) and a reel (16) said reel (16) being supported in the depilation device (1) so as to be rotatable about a reel axis (17) and being provided and constructed for accommodating a tape roll (15) formed by winding up of a depilation tape (2), wherein the reel (16) performs a dual function and is designed both for unreeling the depilation tape (2) from the tape roll (15) present on the reel (16) so as to apply a portion of the depilation tape (2) to the skin of a person, and also for winding up the depilation tape (2) onto the tape roll (15) present on the reel (16) so as to pull off a portion of the depilation tape (2) previously applied to the skin of a person from the skin of this person again, and wherein the reel (16) can be driven into rotation by drive means (35) during winding up of the depilation tape (2), and wherein the reel (16) can be driven into rotation by the depilation tape (2) during unreeling of the depilation tape (2) without being hampered by the drive means (35).
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2. A depilation device (1) as claimed in claim 1, wherein the drive means (35) comprise an electric motor (33).
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3. A depilation device (1) as claimed in claim 2, wherein the electric motor (33) comprises a motor shaft (36), wherein a first gear (37) is fixedly mounted on the motor shaft (36),
20 wherein the drive means (35) are formed by a gear transmission (35) comprising the first gear (37), which gear transmission (35) comprises an end gear (39) which is in engagement with a toothed rim (40) of the reel (16), and wherein one gear (38) of the gears (37, 38, 39) of the gear transmission (35) is adjustably supported by an adjustable carrier (42) and can be brought thereby out of engagement with an
25 adjoining gear (37) of the gear transmission (35) so as to avoid that the unreeling of the depilation tape (2) is hampered by the drive means (35).
4. A depilation device (1) as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the depilation device (1) is provided and constructed for operation with a depilation tape (2) comprising a hair removal medium that can be softened by heating,
wherein the depilation device (1) comprises a heating device (23) to which the depilation tape (2) unreeled from the reel (16) can be supplied and by means of which the relevant tape
5 portion (2A) of the depilation tape (2) co-operating with the heating device (23) can be heated for the purpose of softening the hair removal medium before the depilation tape (2) is applied with its hair removal medium to the skin of a person,
wherein the heating device (23) is mounted with adjustment possibility between a rest position and an operational position, is lifted off the depilation tape (2) in its rest position,
10 and is in thermally conductive contact with the depilation tape (2) in its operational position, and wherein adjustment means (62) are provided for adjusting the heating device (23), said means being capable of positioning the heating device (23) in its operational position during unreeeling of the depilation tape (2) from the reel (16) and of positioning the heating device (23) in its rest position during winding up of the depilation tape (2) onto the reel (16).

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5. A depilation device (1) as claimed in claim 4,
wherein the depilation device (1) comprises an application roller (27) for applying the depilation tape (2) to the skin of a person, which application roller (27) can be pressed against the skin of a person with the depilation tape (2) being interposed between them,
20 wherein said application roller (27) is adjustably mounted and forms part of the adjustment means (62), and
wherein the heating device (23) can be adjusted into its operational position by means of the application roller (27) via the adjustment means (62) in that the application roller (27) is pressed against the skin, whereby the application roller (27) is held in its adjusted position.